

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA  
Form FWP  
January 03, 2019

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The information in this pricing supplement is not complete and may be changed.  
This pricing supplement is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO  
COMPLETION,

DATED           Filed Pursuant to Rule 433  
JANUARY 3,  
2019

Registration No. 333-227001

Preliminary Pricing Supplement No. WFC131 (to Prospectus and Prospectus Supplement each dated September 7, 2018)

Royal Bank of Canada  
Market Linked Securities—Leveraged Upside Participation and Fixed Percentage Buffered Downside Principal at Risk Securities Linked to the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index, due August 5, 2021  
The securities described in this pricing supplement are issued by Royal Bank of Canada (Royal Bank of Canada or the Issuer), and are Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series H of the Issuer, as described in the prospectus supplement and prospectus each dated September 7, 2018.

Agent:                   Wells Fargo Securities, LLC. The agent may make sales through its affiliates or selling agents.

Principal Amount:     Each security will have a principal amount of \$1,000. The securities are not principal-protected. You may lose up to 75% of the principal amount of the securities.

Pricing Date:           January 31, 2019\*

Original Issue Date:   February 5, 2019\*

Valuation Date:        July 29, 2021\*, subject to postponement as described below.

Maturity Date:         August 5, 2021\*, subject to postponement as described below.

Interest:                We will not pay you interest during the term of the securities.

Index:                   The return on the securities is linked to the performance of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index (Bloomberg symbol: SX5E), which we refer to as the Index.

The amount you receive at maturity, for each security you own, will depend upon the change in the level of the Index based on the Final Index Level relative to the Initial Index Level, and whether or not the Final Index Level is below the Buffer Level.

Payment at Maturity:   (i) If the Final Index Level is greater than the Initial Index Level, the maturity payment amount per security will equal:

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \frac{\text{Final Index Level} - \text{Initial Index Level}}{\text{Initial Index Level}} \times \text{Participation Rate})$$

(ii) If the Final Index Level is equal to or less than the Initial Index Level but greater than or equal to the Buffer Level, the maturity payment amount per

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security will equal \$1,000.

(iii) If the Final Index Level is less than the Buffer Level, the maturity payment amount per security will equal:

$$\$1,000 - \left( \$1,000 \times \frac{\text{Buffer Level} - \text{Final Index Level}}{\text{Initial Index Level}} \right)$$

In such a case, you will lose up to 75% of your principal.

Participation Rate: [130%-140%], to be determined on the pricing date.

Initial Index Level: The closing level of the Index on the pricing date.

Final Index Level: The closing level of the Index on the valuation date.

Buffer Level: 75% of the Initial Index Level.

Listing: The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange.

CUSIP Number: 78013XV96

\* To the extent that the Issuer makes any change to the expected pricing date or expected original issue date, the valuation date and the maturity date may also be changed in the Issuer's discretion to ensure that the term of the securities remains the same.

Our initial estimated value of the securities as of the date of this document is \$951.56 per \$1,000 in principal amount, which is less than the public offering price. While the initial estimated value of the securities on the pricing date may differ from the estimated value set forth above, we do not expect it to differ significantly absent a material change in market conditions or other relevant factors. The final pricing supplement relating to the securities will set forth our estimate of the initial value of the securities as of the pricing date, which will not be less than \$931.56 per \$1,000 in principal amount. The market value of the securities at any time will reflect many factors, cannot be predicted with accuracy, and may be less than this amount. See "Risk Factors" and "Supplemental Plan of Distribution – Structuring the Securities" for further information.

The securities will be unsecured debt obligations of Royal Bank of Canada. Payments on the securities are subject to Royal Bank of Canada's credit risk. If Royal Bank of Canada defaults on its obligations, you could lose your entire investment. No other company or entity will be responsible for payments under the securities or liable to holders of the securities in the event Royal Bank of Canada defaults under the securities. The securities will not be issued by or guaranteed by Wells Fargo Securities, LLC or any of its affiliates. The securities are not subject to conversion into our common shares under subsection 39.2(2.3) of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act.

The securities will not constitute deposits insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC") or any other Canadian or U.S. government agency or instrumentality. For a detailed description of the terms of the securities, see "Summary Information" beginning on page PS-2 and "Specific Terms of the Securities" beginning on page PS-15. Defined terms used in this cover page are defined in "Summary Information" and "Specific Terms of the Securities."

The securities have complex features and investing in the securities involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page PS-9 of this document and page S-1 of the accompanying prospectus supplement.

	Per Security	Total
Public Offering Price	\$1,000.00	\$•
Maximum Underwriting Discount and Commission <sup>(1)</sup>	\$31.50	\$•
Minimum Proceeds to Royal Bank of Canada	\$968.50	\$•

(1) The agent will receive an underwriting discount and commission of up to \$31.50 per security. Of that underwriting discount and commission, each dealer that sells securities will receive a selling concession of \$17.50 for each security that such dealer sells. Such securities dealers may include Wells Fargo Advisors ("WFA") (the trade name of the retail brokerage business of Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC and Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC). In addition to the selling concession allowed to WFA, the agent will pay \$0.75 per security of the underwriting discount and commission to WFA as a distribution expense fee for each security sold by WFA. See "Use of Proceeds and Hedging" and "Supplemental Plan of Distribution" in this pricing supplement for information regarding how we may hedge our obligations under the securities.

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None of the Securities and Exchange Commission, any state securities commission or any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of the securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this pricing supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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Wells Fargo Securities

The date of this pricing supplement is January [ ], 2019

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## SUMMARY INFORMATION

This document is a pricing supplement. This pricing supplement provides specific pricing information in connection with this issuance of securities. This summary includes questions and answers that highlight selected information from this pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus to help you understand the Market Linked Securities Leveraged Upside Participation and Fixed Percentage Buffered Downside Principal at Risk Securities Linked to the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index, due August 5, 2021 (the securities). You should carefully read this pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus to fully understand the terms of the securities and the tax and other considerations that are important to you in making a decision about whether to invest in the securities. You should carefully review the section “Risk Factors” in this pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus, which highlight certain risks associated with an investment in the securities, to determine whether an investment in the securities is appropriate for you.

Unless otherwise mentioned or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this pricing supplement to “Royal Bank of Canada”, “we”, “us” and “our” or similar references mean Royal Bank of Canada. Capitalized terms used in this pricing supplement without definition have the meanings given to them in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus.

What are the securities?

The securities offered by this pricing supplement will be issued by Royal Bank of Canada and will mature on August 5, 2021. The return on the securities, if any, will be linked to the performance of the EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index, which we refer to as the Index. The securities will not bear interest and no other payments will be made until maturity. You may lose up to 75% of your investment in the securities.

As discussed in the accompanying prospectus supplement, the securities are debt securities and will be part of a series of debt securities entitled “Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series H” that Royal Bank of Canada may issue from time to time. The securities will rank equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated debt of Royal Bank of Canada. For more details, see “Specific Terms of the Securities” beginning on page PS-15.

Each security will have a principal amount of \$1,000. Each security will be offered at an initial public offering price of \$1,000. However, on the pricing date, our initial estimated value of the securities will be less than \$1,000 per security as a result of certain costs that are included in the initial public offering price. See “Risk Factors—Our initial estimated value of the securities will be less than the initial public offering price” and “Supplemental Plan of Distribution—Structuring the Securities.” To the extent a market for the securities exists, you may transfer only whole securities. Royal Bank of Canada will issue the securities in the form of a master global certificate, which is held by The Depository Trust Company, also known as DTC, or its nominee. Direct and indirect participants in DTC will record your ownership of the securities.

Are the securities principal protected?

No, the securities do not guarantee any return of principal at maturity. If the Final Index Level is less than the Buffer Level, you will be exposed on a 1-to-1 basis to declines in the level of the Index beyond the Buffer Level.

Accordingly, if the Final Index Level is below the Buffer Level, you will lose up to 75% of your principal.

What will I receive upon maturity of the securities?

At maturity, for each security you own, you will receive a cash payment equal to the maturity payment amount. The maturity payment amount to which you will be entitled depends on the percentage change in the level of the Index calculated based on the Final Index Level (as defined below) relative to the Initial Index Level (as defined below), and whether or not the Final Index Level is below the Buffer Level (as defined below).

The maturity payment amount for each security will be determined by the calculation agent as described below:

· If the Final Index Level is greater than the Initial Index Level, the maturity payment amount per security will equal:

$$\$1,000 + \left( \$1,000 \times \frac{\text{Final Index Level} - \text{Initial Index Level}}{\text{Initial Index Level}} \times \text{Participation Rate} \right)$$

The Participation Rate will be [130%-140%], to be determined on the pricing date.

· If the Final Index Level is equal to or less than the Initial Index Level, but greater than or equal to the Buffer Level, the maturity payment amount per security will equal \$1,000.

· If the Final Index Level is less than the Buffer Level, the maturity payment amount per security will equal:

$$\$1,000 - \left( \$1,000 \times \frac{\text{Buffer Level} - \text{Final Index Level}}{\text{Initial Index Level}} \right)$$

If the Final Index Level is less than the Buffer Level, the amount you will receive at maturity will be less than the principal amount of the securities, and you will lose up to 75% of your principal. If the Final Index Level is zero, the maturity payment amount will be \$250.00 per security, and you will lose 75% of your principal.

The Initial Index Level will be equal to the closing level of the Index on the pricing date and disclosed in the final pricing supplement for the securities.

The Buffer Level will equal 75% of the Initial Index Level.

The Final Index Level will be determined by the calculation agent and will be the closing level of the Index on the valuation date.

The valuation date is July 29, 2021. However, if that day occurs on a day that is not a trading day (as defined on page PS-19) or on a day on which the calculation agent has determined that a market disruption event (as defined under “Specific Terms of the Securities—Market Disruption Event” below) has occurred or is continuing, then the valuation date will be postponed until the next succeeding trading day on which the calculation agent determines that a market disruption event does not occur or is not continuing; provided that in no event will the valuation date be postponed by more than eight trading days. If the valuation date is postponed, then the maturity date of the securities will be postponed by an equal number of business days. The maturity date will be a business day. In the event the maturity date would otherwise be a date that is not a business day, the maturity date will be postponed to the next succeeding date that is a business day and no interest shall accrue or be payable as a result of the postponement.

The closing level on any trading day will equal the official closing level of the Index or any successor Index (as defined under “Specific Terms of the Securities—Discontinuation of the Index; Adjustments to the Index” below) published by the Index Sponsor (as defined below) or any successor index sponsor at the regular weekday close of trading on that trading day. In certain circumstances, the closing level will be based on the alternate calculation of the Index described under “Specific Terms of the Securities—Discontinuation of the Index; Adjustments to the Index” below. If the Final Index Level is less than the Buffer Level, you will be exposed on a 1-to-1 basis to declines in the level of the Index beyond the Buffer Level. Accordingly, if the level of the Index decreases below the Buffer Level, you will lose up to 75% of your principal.

Hypothetical Examples

Set forth below are three hypothetical examples of the calculation of the maturity payment amount based on the following hypothetical values (the numbers appearing in the examples below have been rounded for ease of analysis):

Hypothetical Initial Index Level: 3,000.00

Hypothetical Buffer Level: 2,250.00

Hypothetical Participation Rate: 135% (the mid-point of the Participation Rate range set forth in this pricing supplement)

Example 1—The hypothetical Final Index Level is 40.00% of the hypothetical Initial Index Level, which is below the Buffer Level:

Hypothetical Final Index Level: 1,200.00

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Maturity payment amount} &= \$1,000 - \left( \$1,000 \times \frac{2,250.00 - 1,200.00}{3,000.00} \right) = \$650.00 \\ \text{(per security)} & \end{aligned}$$

Since the hypothetical Final Index Level is less than the hypothetical Initial Index Level and below the hypothetical Buffer Level, the amount you will receive at maturity will be equal to the issue price of \$1,000 per security minus \$1,000 times the difference between the hypothetical Buffer Level and the hypothetical Final Index Level, divided by the hypothetical Initial Index Level, and you would lose some of your principal. Although the hypothetical Final Index level declined by 60.00% from the hypothetical Initial Index Level to the hypothetical Final Index Level, your total cash payment at maturity would be \$650.00 per security, representing a 35.00% loss of the principal amount of your securities.

Example 2—The hypothetical Final Index Level is 95.00% of the hypothetical Initial Index Level, which is below the Initial Index Level, but above the Buffer Level:

Since the hypothetical Final Index Level is less than the hypothetical Initial Index Level but greater than the hypothetical Buffer Level, the maturity payment amount per security will equal the principal amount of \$1,000.

Example 3—The hypothetical Final Index Level is 120.00% of the hypothetical Initial Index Level:

Hypothetical Final Index Level: 3,600.00

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Maturity payment amount (per security)} &= \$1,000 + \left( \$1,000 \times \frac{3,600.00 - 3,000.00}{3,000.00} \times 135\% \right) \\ &= \$1,000 + \$270.00 = \$1,270.00 \end{aligned}$$

Since the hypothetical Final Index Level is greater than the hypothetical Initial Index Level, you would receive the principal amount of \$1,000 plus 135% (the midpoint of the Participation Rate range of 130%-140%) times the amount of the percentage change in the level of the Index times \$1,000. Your total cash payment at maturity would be \$1,270.00 per security, representing a 27.00% total return.

## Hypothetical Returns

The following table assumes a hypothetical Participation Rate of 135%, the mid-point of the Participation Rate range set forth in this pricing supplement, a hypothetical Initial Index Level of 3,000.00 and a range of hypothetical Final Index Levels and illustrates:

- the percentage change from the hypothetical Initial Index Level to the hypothetical Final Index Level;
- the hypothetical maturity payment amount per security; and
- the hypothetical pre-tax total rate of return to beneficial owners of the securities.

The figures below are rounded for ease of analysis and are for purposes of illustration only. The actual maturity payment amount will depend on the actual Participation Rate and the Final Index Level as determined by the calculation agent as described in this pricing supplement.

Hypothetical Final Index Level	Percentage Change from the Hypothetical Initial Index Level to the Hypothetical Final Index Level	Hypothetical Maturity Payment Amount per Security	Hypothetical Pre Tax Total Rate of Return on the Securities
0.00	-100.00%	\$250.00	-75.00%
300.00	-90.00%	\$350.00	-65.00%
600.00	-80.00%	\$450.00	-55.00%
900.00	-70.00%	\$550.00	-45.00%
1,200.00	-60.00%	\$650.00	-35.00%
1,350.00	-55.00%	\$700.00	-30.00%
1,500.00	-50.00%	\$750.00	-25.00%
1,650.00	-45.00%	\$800.00	-20.00%
1,800.00	-40.00%	\$850.00	-15.00%
2,100.00	-30.00%	\$950.00	-5.00%
2,250.00 (1)	-25.00%	\$1,000.00	0.00%
2,400.00	-20.00%	\$1,000.00	0.00%
2,700.00	-10.00%	\$1,000.00	0.00%
3,000.00 (2)	0.00%	\$1,000.00	0.00%
3,300.00	10.00%	\$1,135.00	13.50%
3,600.00	20.00%	\$1,270.00	27.00%
3,900.00	30.00%	\$1,405.00	40.50%
4,200.00	40.00%	\$1,540.00	54.00%
4,500.00	50.00%	\$1,675.00	67.50%
4,800.00	60.00%	\$1,810.00	81.00%
5,100.00	70.00%	\$1,945.00	94.50%
5,400.00	80.00%	\$2,080.00	108.00%
5,700.00	90.00%	\$2,215.00	121.50%
6,000.00	100.00%	\$2,350.00	135.00%

(1) This is the hypothetical Buffer Level.

(2) This is the hypothetical Initial Index Level.

The following graph sets forth the return at maturity for a range of hypothetical percentage changes of the Index, based on a hypothetical Participation Rate of 135% (the midpoint of the Participation Rate range set forth in this pricing supplement).

Return Profile of Market Linked Securities —Leveraged Upside Participation and Fixed Percentage Buffered Downside Principal at Risk Securities vs. the Index  
Who should or should not consider an investment in the securities?

We have designed the securities for investors who seek exposure to the Index, who believe that the Index level will increase over the term of the securities, and who want to participate in [1.30-1.40] (to be determined on the pricing date) times the possible appreciation of the Index (measured by the percentage change in the level of the Index based on the Final Index Level relative to the Initial Index Level); who understand that, if the Final Index Level is less than the Buffer Level, they will lose money on their investment; and who are willing to hold their securities until maturity. Investors in the securities should be willing to risk up to 75% of their investment.

The securities are not designed for, and may not be a suitable investment for, investors who are unable or unwilling to hold the securities to maturity, who seek principal protection for their investment, who are unwilling to make an investment exposed to downside performance risk of the Index or who are unwilling to purchase securities with an initial estimated value as of the pricing date that is lower than the initial public offering price and that may be as low as the lower estimated value set forth on the cover page. The securities may not be a suitable investment for investors who prefer the lower risk of fixed income investments with comparable maturities issued by companies with comparable credit ratings.

What will I receive if I sell the securities prior to maturity?

The market value of the securities may fluctuate during the term of the securities. Several factors and their interrelationship will influence the market value of the securities, including the level of the Index, dividend yields of the common stocks underlying the Index, the time remaining to maturity of the securities, interest rates and the volatility of the Index. Depending on the impact of these factors, you may receive less than \$1,000 per security from any sale of your securities before the maturity date of the securities and less than what you would have received had you held the securities until maturity. Assuming no change in market conditions or other relevant factors, the price, if any, at which you may be able to sell your securities prior to maturity will be less than the initial public offering price and, subject to the discussion regarding secondary market prices during the four months following the original issue date in “Supplemental Plan of Distribution” on page PS-29, will be less than the initial estimated value of the securities set forth on the cover page. For



more details, see “Risk Factors — Many factors affect the market value of the securities” on page PS-10 and “—The price, if any, at which you may be able to sell your securities prior to maturity may be less than the initial public offering price and our initial estimated value” on page PS-11.

Who publishes the Index and what does the Index measure?

The EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index (the Index) is an equity index that is composed of 50 component stocks of sector leaders in 11 Eurozone countries and is intended to provide an indication of common stock price movement in the Eurozone. The Index is published by STOXX Limited (the Index Sponsor).

The Index is determined, calculated and maintained by the Index Sponsor without regard to the securities.

You should be aware that an investment in the securities does not entitle you to any ownership interest in the common stocks of the companies included in the Index. For a discussion of the Index, see “EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index” below.

How has the Index performed historically?

You can find a graph setting forth the closing levels of the Index for the period from January 1, 2014 to a recent date, in the section entitled “EURO STOXX 50<sup>®</sup> Index— Historical Closing Levels of the Index” in this pricing supplement.

We obtained the historical information from Bloomberg Financial Markets without independent verification. You should not take the past performance of the Index as an indication of how the Index will perform in the future.

What are the United States federal income tax consequences of investing in the securities?

The terms of the securities require a holder and us (in the absence of a change in law or an administrative or judicial ruling to the contrary) to treat the securities for all tax purposes as pre-paid cash-settled derivative contracts in respect of the Index. If the securities are so treated, a U.S. holder should generally recognize capital gain or loss upon the sale, exchange or maturity of the securities in an amount equal to the difference between the amount a holder receives at such time and the holder’s tax basis in the securities.

Please read carefully the section entitled “Supplemental Discussion of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences” in this pricing supplement, the section entitled “Tax Consequences” in the accompanying prospectus and the section entitled “Certain Income Tax Consequences” in the accompanying prospectus supplement. You should consult your tax advisor about your own tax situation.

What are the Canadian federal income tax consequences of investing in the securities?

For a discussion of the Canadian federal income tax consequences of investing in the securities, please read carefully the section entitled “Tax Consequences” in the accompanying prospectus and the section entitled “Certain Income Tax Consequences” in the accompanying prospectus supplement. You should consult your tax advisor about your own tax situation.

Will the securities be listed on a stock exchange?

The securities will not be listed on any securities exchange. There can be no assurance that a liquid trading market will develop for the securities. Accordingly, if you sell your securities prior to maturity, you may have to sell them at a substantial loss. You should review the section entitled “Risk Factors—There may not be an active trading market for the securities” in this pricing supplement.

Are there any risks associated with my investment?

Yes, an investment in the securities is subject to significant risks, including the risk of loss of up to 75% of your principal. We urge you to read the detailed explanation of risks in “Risk Factors” beginning on page PS-9 of this document and page S-1 of the accompanying prospectus supplement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You should read this pricing supplement together with the prospectus dated September 7, 2018, as supplemented by the prospectus supplement dated September 7, 2018, relating to our Senior Global Medium-Term Notes, Series H, of which these securities are a part. This pricing supplement, together with these documents, contains the terms of the securities and supersedes all other prior or contemporaneous oral statements as well as any other written materials including preliminary or indicative pricing terms, correspondence, trade ideas, structures for implementation, sample structures, brochures or other educational materials of ours.

You should rely only on the information provided or incorporated by reference in this pricing supplement, the prospectus and the prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information, and we take no responsibility for any other information that others may give you. We and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are offering to sell the securities and seeking offers to buy the securities only in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus is current only as of their respective dates.

If the information in this pricing supplement differs from the infor